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Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

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P R 011850Z FEB 74
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1465
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
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USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 4 VIENNA 0929

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING 31 JAN 1974

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. IN ITS MEETINGON JANUARY 31, THE AD HOC GROUP, CHAIRED BY CANADIAN REP GRANDE, COVERED THE FOLLOWING AGENDA: A. BILATERALS (1) MEETING BETWEEN THE DANISH REP KNOX AND SOVIET DEP REP SMIRNOVSKY (SEPTEL); (2) DINNER HOSTED BY US REP ATTENDED BY UK REP (ROSE), CANADIAN REP AND SOVIET REPS KHLESTOV AND SMIRNOVSKY; (3) MEETING OF US REP AND DEP REP WITH SOVIET REP KHLESTOV; (4) MEETING OF BELGIAN REP ANDRISENSSEN WITH POLISH DEP REP STRULAK AND SOVIET DEL OFF SHUSTOV, B. OUTLINE OF PROPOSED ALLIED STATEMENT ON COMMON CEILING (PART 88), C. TELEGRAM ON INSPECTION AND STABILIZING
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MEASURES TO NAC (SEPTEL), D. D. MILITARY DATA SUBCOMMITTEE

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REPORT ON DISCREPANCIES IN FIGURES ON NATO GROUND FORCE STRENGTH IN NGA, E. THE CZECHOSLOVAK PLENARY STATEMENT (VIENNA 0793). END SUMMARY

2. BILATERALS: DANISH DEP REP (TILLICH) CIRCULATED A WRITTEN REPORT OF A MEETING HE AND THE DANISH REP (KNOX) HELD WITH SOVIET DEPREP SMIRNOVSKY ON JAN 30 (SETPEL). REPORT CITES SMIRNOVSKY AS SAYING THAT FIGURES WEST HAD PRESENTED TO SUPPORT IST CASE ON DISPARITIES WERE INCORRECT AND THAT WEST HAD PUBLISHED DIFFERENT FIGURES ELSEWHERE. SMIRNOVSKY DID NOT ADVANCE ANY FIGURES OF HIS OWN, HOWEVER. SMIRNOVSKY ARGUED THAT WITHDRAWAL OF SOME NUCLEAR WEAPONS WOULD PROBABLY NOT MAKE MUCH DIFFERENCE TO EITHER SIDE MILITARILY BUT AN AGREEMENT WITHOUT SUCH A PROVISION WOULD MEET WITH CRITICISM FROM THE PUBLIC IN THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. HE STRESSED GROWING DOUBTS OF THE EASTERN SIDE ABOUT THE INTENTIONS OF CERTAIN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO PARTICIPATE IN PHASE II REDUCTIONS AND SINGLED OUT THE BUNDESWEHR IN THIS REGARD. HE SAID A COMMON CEILING AS SUCH WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT FOR THE RUSSIANS BECAUSE IT DID NOT GUARANTEE THAT THE BUNDESWEHR WOULD BE "REDUCED"AND "KEPT REDUCED". THE TIME WAS NOT RIPE FOR INTRODUCTION OF EMISSARIES, WHO WOULD JUST STICK TO THEIR INSTRUCTIONS.

3. ASKED IF HE WISHED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, THE DANISH DEPREP INDICATED THAT HE HAD LITTLE TO ADD EXCEPT TO POINTOUT CONTINUING SOVIET PREOCCUPATION WITH THE BUNDESWEHR AND TO OBSERVE THAT DESPITE HIS CRITICISM OF THE WESTERN POSTION, SMIRNOVSKY CONVEYED GENUINE INTEREST IN REACHING AN AGREEMENT.

4. THE ITALIAN REP (CAGIATI) WONDERED WHY SMIRNOVSKY HAD BOTHERED TO REMARK, AS INDICATED IN THE DANISH WRITTEN REPORT, THAT EMISSARIES "WOULD JUST STICK TO THEIR INSTRUCTIONS". DID NOT EMISSARIES ALWAYS STICK TO THEIR INSTRUCTIONS? THE US ACTING REP (DEAN) REPLIED THAT SMIRNOVSKY PRESUMABLY WAS REHEARSING SOVIET PREFERENCE FOR BILATERALS AT THIS STAGE WITH ARGUMENT THAT, MULTILATERAL SESSIONS WOULD ONLY BE RATHER INFLEXIBLE REHEARSALS OF OFFICIAL POSITIONS WHICH WERE ALREADY WELL-KNOWN.

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5. THE US ACTING REP REPORTED ON DINNER OF THE P*EVIOUS NIGHT (JAN 30) WITH SOVIET REPS (VIENNA 848). HE SAID THAT NO BUSINESS WAS DISCUSSED, BUT THAT THE CANADIAN REP HAD CONVEYED WITH GOOD EFFECT TO THE SOVIETS THAT THE EVENT PROVED THAT THEY COULD MEET MULTILATERALY WITH THE REPS OF THREE ALLIED COUNTRIES (CANADA, UK AND US) WITHOUT ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES. THE CANADIAN REP HAD ASKED KHLESTOV WHETHER THIS PRECEDENT COULD

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NOT BE CONTINUED AND KHLESTOV HAS RESPONDED THAT IT COULD.

6. THE US ACTING REP STATED THAT THE US REP HAD ASKED KHLESTOV ON MORNING OF JANUARY 31 IF HE HAD ANY MORE TO SAY ON THE SUBJECT OF INFORMAL GATHERINGS DISCUSSED BY HIM AND US REP ON JAN 29. KHLESTOV HAD INDICATED INTEREST IN PURSUING THE SUBJECT, AND A FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH KHLESTOV AND SMIRNOVSKY TOOK PLACE THE SAME MORNING. ON THIS OCCASION, KHLESTOV REITERATED THE SOVIET VIEW THAT BILATERALS WERE A BETTER WAY OF DISCUSSING NEGOTIATION ISSUES THAN MULITLATERAL INFORMAL MEETINGS BECAUSE OF THE FLEXIBILITY BILATERALS PROVIDED FOR PARTICIPANTS ON BOTH SIDES. KHLESTOV AGAIN STATED THAT, IN MULTILATERAL TALKS, THE SOVIETS WOULD BE OBLIGED TO TAKE POSITIONS FOR THE RECORD. THE US REP SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT OTHER ALLIES PARTICIPATE BECAUSE THEIR INTERESTS WERE INVOLVED. HE UNDERSTOOD SOVIET POINT BUT HOPED SOVIET WOULD KEEP OPEN MIND AND JUDGE WESTERN VIEWS ON THEIR MERITS. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION ASIDE WITH SMIRNOVSKY, KHLESTOV AGREED TO AN INFORMAL SESSIONWITH THREE REPS FROM EACH SIDE, BUT CAUTIONED THAT A PRICE WOULD HAVE TO BE PAID FOR SUCH MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENT IN TERMS OF THE FLEXIBILITY OF SOVIET REACTION TO WESTERN IDEAS. IT WAS AGREED TO MEET ON THE EVENING OF FEB 7, AND THAT SOVIETS WOULD WISH TO INVITE TWO WARSAW PACT REPS WHOSE NAMES THEY WOULD SUPPLY LATER. IN VIEW OF ABSENCE OF US REP, US ACTING REP SUGGESTED FURTHER DISCUSSION

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1466
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
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MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

OF TALKING POINTS FOR FORTHCOMING DINNER BE POSTPONED.

7. BELGIAN REP (ANDRIAENSSEN) SAID HE HAD TALKED
TO POLISH REP (STRULAK) AFTER THE JAN 31 PLENARY.
THE LATTER ASKED FOR AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A LONG
INFORMAL TALK ABOUT THE LONG-TERM OUTLOOK FOR
THE NEGOTIATIONS. THEY AGREED TO MEET
ON FEB 4 FOR THIS PUPOSE. ADRIAENSSEN SAID THAT HE
HAD ALSO ENCOUNTERED SOVIET DELOFF SHUSTOV AFTER
JAN 31 PLENARY. SHUSTOV HAD INDICATED INTEREST IN
ALLIED PRESENTATION ON THE COMMON CEILING. HE WONDERED
WHETHER WEST'S COMMON CEILING CONCEPT COULD BE COMBINED
WITH EAST'S NEED FOR ASSURANCES ON NATIONAL FORCE
REDUCTIONS IN THE SECOND PHASE. ADRIAENSSEN VIEWED SHUSTOV'S
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COMMENTS AS POSITIVE AND INDICATED THAT THEY TENDED TO
SUPPORT SIMILAR POINTS OF VIEW EXPRESSED IN PAST BY STRULAK.

8. ABSENCE OF EASTERN PLENARY PRESENTATION: THE CHAIRMAN
(CANADIAN REP) EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT EAST'S FAILURE TO
PRESENT A STATEMENT AT THE JAN 31 PLENARY, IN VIEW OF
EASTERN INSISTENCE ON RETAINING A TWO-SCHEDULE OF
PLENARIES PER WEEK. HE WONDERED WHETHER WEST MIGHT HOPE
FOR A CHANGE IN THE SOVIET ATTITUDE ON THIS QUESTION. THE
UK REP SAID THAT WHILE DELIVERING THE WESTERN PRESENTATION
HE COULD SEE THAT SOVIETS DID IN FACT HAVE A BRIEF PREPARED
TEXT. AT SOME POINT DURING HIS (ROSE'S) PRESENTATION,
AND FOR REASONS HE COULD NOT DEVINE, THE SOVIET REPS HAD
CONSULTED HASTILY AMONG THEMSELVES AND TEXT DISAPPEARED.
ROSE SPECULATED THAT THE "TEXT" MIGHT HAVE BEEN BASIS FOR
AN "IMPROMPTU" INTERVENTION SOVIETS HAD PLANNED TO GIVE
BUT HAD SUBSEQUANTLY DECIDED AGAINST.

9. THE DUTCH REP (QUARLES), WHO IS TO BE THE NEXT
PLENARY CHAIRMAN AND ID SCHEDULED TO DELIVER THE ALLIED
PRESENTATION ON TUESDAY (FEB 5), SUGGESTED THAT HE
MIGHT ASK AT THE END OF HIS PRESENTATION WHETHER ANY
PARTICIPANTS PLANNED A PRESENTATION THE FOLLOWING

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THURSDAY, THE 7TH. IF THERE WAS NO RESPONSE HE COULD
THEN STATE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO WESTERN PRESENTATION
EITHER, AND THAT THEREFORE THE NEXT PLENARY WOULD BE HELD
A WEEK LATER, ON FEB 12. THE US ACTING REP THOUGHT THAT
THIS APPROACH MIGHT WORK BUT SOVIETS SHOULD BE INFORMED
OF IT IN ADVANCE TO AVOID UNNECESSARY SURPRISE. IT WAS AGREED
THAT THE BELGIAN REP, WHO IN HIS CAPACITY AS REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE ALLIES ON PROCEDURAL MATTERS HAD ALREADY INQUIRED
WHETHER THE EAST PLANNED A PRESENTATION ON FEB 5, WOULD
PURSUE THESE INQUIRIES ON THIS LINE WITH A VIEW TO WORKING
OUT SOME ARRANGEMENT WHICH WOULD PERMIT A RHYTHM OF ONE PLENARY
PER WEEK.

10. OUTLINE FOR SECOND PLENARY PRESENTATION ON COMMON
CEILING CONCEPT: A DRAFT OUTLINE WAS CIRCULATED AND
DISCUSSION INVITED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR THE
DRAFTING GROUP IN PREPARING TEXT OF THE PRESENTATION.
THE US ACTING REP SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO REQUEST A RESERVE
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BE PLACED ON THOSE PROTIONS OF THE OUTLINE MAKING REFERENCE
TO RECENT WP-SOVIET FORCE BUILD-UPS. HIS AUTHORITIES WERE
HESITANT ABOUT CITING HISTORY OF SOVIET BUILDUPS SINCE
1968 TO JUSTIFY ALLIED POSITION, AS SUGGESTED BY OUTLINE
DOES, BECAUSE TO DO SO COULD CREATE OPENING FOR SOVIET
CRITICISM OF THE WEST'S FORCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND SHIFT
FOCUS AWAY FROM EXAMINATION OF PRESENT FACTUAL SITUATION
TO EXPLORATION OF PAST MOTIVES AND INTENTIONS. IN CONSIDERING
THE OUTLINE, THEREFORE, GROUP SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THE
POSSIBILITY THAT US MIGHT BE UNABLE TO AGREE TO USE THIS LINE
OF ARGUMENT. THE CANADIAN REP ADDED THAT AFTER EARLIER
DISCUSSION OF TOPIC, HE HAD REQUESTED HIS INSTRUCTIONS BE
ALTERED. THEY HAD PROHIBITED USE OF THE ARGUMENT BUT HE
WAS NOW REQUESTING PERMISSION TO GO ALONG WITH IT IF PERCENTAGES,
RATHER THAN FIGURES, WERE USED TO SUPPORT WESTERN POSITION.
THE DUTCH REP ASKED WHETHER US WAS OPPOSED TO THE EXPRESSION
OF RECENT QUALITATIVE INCREASES IN EAST FORCE LEVELS IN
PERCENTAGE TERMS. THE US ACTING REP INDICATED THAT HE WAS
AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS ON THE TOPIC. CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED
DRAFTERS MIGHT PROCEED AND WORK ON THIS PORTION OF THE
DRAFT AS AN EXERCISE, USING PERCENTAGES, PENDING RECEIPT
OF US VIEWS.

11. THE UK REP ARGUED STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF USING APPROACH IN
QUESTION. HE SAID THAT MOST NATO FORCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS OF
PAST YEARS WERE NOT REALLY QUANTITATIVE INCREASES, BUT QUALIT-
ATIVE ONES, WHEREAS ON EASTERN SIDE THERE HAD BEEN VERY
LARGE QUANTITATIVE BUILDUPS. IN VIEW OF THE NUMBEROUS
PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY WESTERN LEADERS CALLING ATTENTION TO
THESE EASTERN BUILDUPS, INCLUDING EXPLICIT STATEMENTS MADE

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IN THE PUBLISHED COMMUNIQUE OF THE DPC MEETING IN DECEMBER,
IT WOULD BE A SHAME IF SUCH POINTS COULD NOT BE MADE IN THE

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AEC-11 AECE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 /166 W
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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1467
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION NATO
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
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MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

MBFR CONTEXT WHERE THEY ARE NEEDED THE MOST. ITALIAN
REP SUPPORTED THESE ARGUMENTS. HE SAID REFERENCE TO
PERCENTAGES INCREASES OF PACT FORCES IN RECENT YEARS WAS
A LEGITIMATE AND NECESSARY ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF THE
WESTERN POINT THAT THE ALLIES WOULD NOT ENTER AN AGREEMENT
WHICH CODIFIED DISPARITIES WHICH HAD IN FACT BEEN
INCREASING IN RECENT YEARS. HE REQUESTED ACTING US REP
TO INFORM WASHINGTON AUTHORITIES THAT IT WAS VIEW OF
GREAT MAJORITY OF AD HOC GROUP MEMBERS THAT THIS ARGUMENT
BE USED IN NEXT PLENARY PRESENTATION ON COMMON CEILING.
IT WAS ONLY NEW POINT THE ALLIES HAD TO ADVANCE IN
WHAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE A ROUTINE REPRETITION OF PREVIOUS

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ARGUMENTS.

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12. THE US REP SAID HE WOULD DRAW ATTENTION OF HIS AUTHORITIES TO THESE ARGUMENTS. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT SOVIETS HAD ALREADY CITED PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY WESTERN OFFICIALS, FOR EXAMPLE FRG MINISTER LEBER, WHO HAD SPOKEN OF PROJECTED TANK INCREASE. IT SEEMED TO HIM THAT WESTERN QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS SOMETIMES QUANTITATIVE FORM AS WELL.

13. THE FRG REQ THOUGHT THE PRESENTATION SHOULD MENTION EASTERN BUILDUPS IN MANPOWER AND TANKS AND THAT FIGURES RATHER THAN PERCENTAGES SHOULD BE USED. THE INCREASE IN TANKS WAS DISPROPORTIONATE IN FAVOR OF THE WP. THE UK AND US REPS ARGUED THAT INCLUDING MENTION OF TANKS WAS TANGEROUS IN ANY EVENT AND THOUGHT THE POINT SHOULD NOT BE RAISED; ALLIED ARGUMENTAT*ON SHOULD BE FOCUSSED IN SUPPORT OF MANPOWER COMMON CEILING.

14. THE NETHERLANDS REP EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE PRESENTATION WOULD STRESS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE COMMON CEILING AND EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN THE BROAD SENSE. THE NEED FOR GREATER COOPERATION WAS AGREED. IT WAS A MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF THE CSCE. THE WEST SHOULD ARGUE THAT WITHOUT A COMMON CEILING, SECOND PHASE REDUCTIONS BY NATIONAL FORCES WERE UNTHINKABLE, BUT AGREEMENT ON A COMMON CEILING WOULD ON OTHER HAND BE AN IMPORTANT MOVE TOWARDS ESTABLISHING REAL BASIS FOR MORE GENERAL EAST-WEST COOPERATION IN EUROPE.

15. INSPECTION AND STABILIZING MEASURES: A DRAFT TELEGRAM TO NATO (SEPTEL) WAS CIRCULATED REFLECTING THE PREVIOUS DAY'S (JANUARY 30) CONSENSUS THAT NATO SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT WHILE AHG DID NOT HAVE IMMEDIATE NEED FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON INSPECTION, GUIDANCE WAS NEEDED URGENTLY TO ENABLE AHG TO PREPARE PRESENTATIONS ON STABILIZING MEASURES.

16. NETHERLANDS REP SAID HE HAD JUST LEARNED

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THAT ON RECOMMENDATION FROM NETHERLANDS NATO REP, SPC DRAFTING GROUP WAS IN THE PROCESS OF PREPARING FOR SPC A DOCUMENT INCORPORATING THOSE ASPECTS OF MORE DETAILED SPC DRAFT WHICH HAD BEEN AGREED BY ALLIES. THIS WOULD THEN BE BASIS FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO AHG. DISCUSSION ENSURED ABOUT HOW THE AHG'S DRAFT TELEGRAM SHOULD BE PHRASED IN LIGHT OF THIS INFORMATION. THE MESSAGE AS FINALLY APPROVED REQUESTS THE COUNCIL FOR A "SIMPLIFIED OUTLINE" TO BE USED AS BASIS FOR ALLIED PRESENTATIONS. GROUP DESIRED FLEXIBILITY IN DESIGNING PRESENTATIONS MOST EFFECTIVELY AND TO AVOID BEING BOUND BY REQUIREMENT SIMULTANEOUSLY TO ADVANCE DETAILS SUITABLE ONLY FOR SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATION.

17. MILITARY WORKING GROUP REPORT: CHAIRMAN CALLED ON GEN. STEIFF, FRG, TO REPORT ON DRAFT TELEGRAM WHICH HE HAD BEEN ASKED TO PREPARE (VIENNA 0848). ITS PUPOSE WAS TO ELICIT SUFFICIENT INFORMATION TO ENABLE AHG TO LEARN FACTS ON EXISTING DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN APPROVED NEGOTIATING GROUND FORCE FIGURE OF 777,000 IN NGA; MILSTAM (MBFR) 31-73 (REVISED) 6 DECEMBER 1973 GIVING "DRAFT NATO FIGURES" FOR NATO IN THE NGA TOTALING 803,000; AND SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION WHICH INDICATES WESTERN GROUND FORCES INCLUDING FRANCE IN NGA MAY TOTAL 805,000. US DEP REP QUESTIONED TENOR OF DRAFT TELEGRAM, WHICH IN HIS OPINION DID NOT MAKE CLEAR NATURE OF INFORMATION THAT AHG WOULD EVENTUALLY HAVE TO KNOW IF THERE WERE TO BE ANY DETAILED DISCUSSION OF DATA WITH EAST, IN PARTICULAR THE BASIS ON WHICH INDIVIDUAL NATO DIRECT PARTICIPANTS HAD CALCULATED THEIR FORCE STRENGTHS. DIFFERENCES IN THESE METHODS MIGHT ACCOUNT TO SOME DEGREE FOR DISPARITY BETWEEN 777,000 TOTAL AND PRESENT APPARENT TOTALS. UK REP SUPPORTED THIS APPROACH. FRG REP INTERJECTED THAT EACH GOVERNMENT HAD ITS OWN METHODS OF ESTABLISHING ITS FORCE LEVELS AND THAT THEREFORE THE QUESTION MIGHT NOT BE RESOLVED

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MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

18. IMS REP CAPTAIN BIELDERS VOLUNTEERED THE SERVICES OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DATA SUB-GROUP OF THE IMS TO COME TO VIENNA DURING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 4-9 IN ORDER TO BRIEF BOTH THE MILITARY DATA SUB-COMMITTEE AND THE AHG. THE AHG ACCEPTED THIS PROPOSAL. US DEP REP PROPOSED THAT MILITARY SUB-COMMITTEE REWORK THE DRAFT TELEGRAM TO FORMULATE QUESTIONS AS BASIS OF DISCUSSION WITH NATO EXPERT AND THAT FINAL AHG APPROVAL BE HELD IN ABEYANCE UNTIL AFTER THE BRIEFING BY THE DATA SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN. AD HOC GROUP ACCEPTED THIS PROPOSAL.

19. CZECH PLENARY STATEMENT OF 29 JANUARY: THE CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT THE CZECH STATEMENT PLACED PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE NEED TO REDUCE NATIONAL FORCES, BUT HAD NOT SPECI-
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FICALLY MENTIONED THE BUNDESWEHR. US ACTING REP NOTED THAT CZECHS HAD REFERRED TO WESTERN EQUIPMENT INPUTS RESULTING IN QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS. HE THOUGHT ALLIED REPS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE OTHER SIDE WAS INTERESTED IN THIS SUBJECT. IF TAKEN LITERALLY, HE ADDED, THE EASTERN DRAFT AGREEMENT MIGHT PROVIDE CONTROLS OVER EVERY ITEM OF EQUIPMENT INTRODUCED INTO THE NGA.

20. THE UK REP NOTED THE CZECH STATEMENT CONTAINED MANY POINTS WHICH COULD, AND SHOULD, BE REBUTTED BY THE WEST. HOWEVER, HE CAUTIONED AGAINST GOING BACK TO ROME COMMUNIQUE IN ORDER TO REBUT CZECH REFERENCE TO THAT DOCUMENT. THERE WAS SOME MATERIAL IN BOTH THE REJKAVIK AND ROME COMMUNIQUES WHICH COULD BE QUITE HARMFUL TO THE PRESENT WESTERN POSITION.

21. NEXT AHG PRESENTATION TO NAC: GROUP AGREED THAT NEXT PRESENTATION TO NAC, SCHEDULED FOR FEB 15, WOULD BE MADE BY AMB QUARLES WHO WOULD BE SUPPORTED BY THE NORWEGIAN DEPREP (VARNO) AND CANADIAN REP. QUARLES IS TAKING THE PLACE OF FRG REP. FRG REP, ALONG WITH SEVERAL OTHERS, EXPRESSED VIEW THAT AHG SHOULD BE FLEXIBLE IN SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THESE REPORTS.

22. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE NEXT AHG MEETING WOULD CONVENE ON FEB 5. HUMES

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